



**State of Arizona
Department of Education**

Tom Horne
Superintendent of
Public Instruction

To: Superintendents and Homeless Liaisons

From: Ralph Romero, Deputy Associate Superintendent
Mattie McVey Lord, Program Coordinator

Date: March 20, 2006

Subject: First Installment of Hurricane Education Recovery Act

ADE has received the first installment of the first quarter of Hurricane Education Recovery Act funds. Until USED has completed all 4 quarter counts, they are funding conservatively. This first payment equated to \$750.00 per Regular Education student and \$937.50 per Special Education student. We are expecting a second installment for the first quarter, which will raise these allocations.

ADE staff will be applying internally on your behalf through the Grants Management system. We will automatically allot 2% for LEA administration, which is the maximum allowable. We will indicate the amount of funds generated by students in the Non-Public schools within your boundaries. The remainder will be placed in 1000-6100/6200 for Instruction. You can certainly amend the budget to reflect how you are actually expending the funds. We anticipate payments being available the first week of April.

For those of you making payments to the Non-Public school accounts, by law, you have 14 calendar days to make the distribution. You may only pay the Non-Public schools the sum amount of tuition, fees, and reasonable transportation costs. Your payment to them must not exceed these costs. The difference between these costs and the funds allocated to your LEA for Non-Public school student must be returned to ADE. Please keep meticulous records, documenting each transaction.

Hypothetical example: Johnny was enrolled in Non-Public school for all 4 quarters. Your LEA received a sum total of \$4,000 on Johnny's behalf. If the total cost of tuition, fees, and transportation for educating Johnny in the Non-Public school amounted to \$2,500, that's the maximum amount your LEA can pay the Non-Public school. The difference of \$1,500 must be returned to ADE so that ADE can return it to USED.

All funds must be obligated by July 31, 2006 or returned to ADE. All funds must be liquidated 90 days thereafter, or returned to ADE.

We have been notified that auditors conducting LEA audits pursuant to the Single Audit Act will be reviewing this program. ADE is also required to monitor both the LEAs and the Non-Public schools participating in this program. We will be reviewing:

- (1) Documentation used to verify the students claimed meet the definition of "displaced student," such as school records, birth certificates, ID cards, etc.
- (2) Records indicating the use of funds
- (3) Appropriateness of payments to Non-Public Schools

For those of you receiving Impact Aid, please note that you may not claim the same student for both Impact Aid and Emergency Impact Aid.

The page that follows is a Notification to Parents. Please distribute it to the parents of the students of the "displaced students" you have claimed. This is a requirement under the law.

Each State receiving emergency impact aid under this section shall provide, to the parent or guardian of each displaced student for whom a payment is made under this section to an account who resides in such State, notification that –

- (1) such parent or guardian has the option of enrolling such student in a public school or a non-public school; and*
- (2) the temporary emergency impact aid for displaced student provided under this section is temporary and is only available for the 2005-2006 school year.*

[H.R. 2863 Sec.107(j)]

All letters and forms will be available for download at <http://www.ade.az.gov/katrina>.

As always, your cooperation is greatly appreciated.



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Tom Horne
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Public Instruction

To: Parents and Guardians of “displaced students”
From: Mattie McVey Lord
Date: April 3, 2006
Subject: Hurricane Education Recovery Act

On December 30, 2005, the U.S. Congress passed the Hurricane Education Recovery Act, which allocated funds to State agencies to distribute to public and non-public schools as “Temporary Emergency Aid for Displaced Students.” The purpose of these funds is to enable schools to provide for the instruction of students displaced by Hurricanes Katrina or Rita.

The term “displaced student” means a student who enrolled in an elementary school or secondary school (other than the school that the student was enrolled in, or was eligible to be enrolled in, on August 22, 2005) because such student resides or resided on August 22, 2005, in an area for which a major disaster has been declared in accordance with section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170), related to Hurricane Katrina or Hurricane Rita.

[H.R. 2863 Sec. 107 (b)(1)]

Because your student meets the definition of “displaced student,” and was enrolled in an Arizona school on at least one of the four specific dates (10/01/05, 12/01/05, 2/01/06, 4/01/06) the school has received payment from the U.S. Department of Education on behalf of your student.

By law, it is the State's responsibility to notify you that:

- 1) You have the option of enrolling your student in a public school or a non-public school; and
- 2) The temporary emergency impact aid for displaced students provided under the Hurricane Education Recovery Act is temporary and is only available for the 2005-2006 school year.

If you have any questions, please contact the Local Education Liaison serving your local educational agency. A list of Liaisons can be accessed at http://www.ade.az.gov/asd/homeless/Homeless_Liaison_Database.xls

Additionally, I can be reached at (602) 542-4963 or mmcvey@ade.az.gov.